

Filed for intro on 01/16/97

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 21  
By Cohen

A RESOLUTION to memorialize and pay tribute to the life of Orrel James Mitchell, Jr.

WHEREAS, Orrel James (O Jay) Mitchell, Jr. left his family and friends on January 11, 1997, he is and always will be alive in their hearts and memories; and

WHEREAS, O Jay Mitchell was a Memphian in body for over two decades and in spirit forever where he has a multitude of friends and was an essential part of the community; and

WHEREAS, O Jay Mitchell served his country in the United States Navy as a distinguished member of the elite SEAL unit and was a Veteran of combat in the Viet Nam conflict as well as other hazardous duty; and

WHEREAS, O Jay Mitchell was a Captain in the Merchant Marines and was very popular among his mates in the Gulf of Mexico as Captain of ships which serviced oil rigs throughout the Gulf; and

WHEREAS, O Jay Mitchell, a leader while a student at Memphis State University, was a political activist in Memphis and was involved in numerous political campaigns for Steve Cohen, including his election to the 1977 Constitutional Convention and his many Senatorial campaigns in which he and Todo, a.k.a. Dennis Freeouf, were charged with the Eastern precincts and much of the fundraising activities; and

WHEREAS, O Jay Mitchell was a close and beloved friend of many in Memphis, including his roommate and consort of many years, Carol Lipman, his attorney and sometimes

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innkeeper, Irvin Salky, his companion in mischief and mixicology, Joe Dougherty, his NORML ally, Dana Mitchell, and his close friend and companion, Brenda Ofenheusle, as well as a host of others from Huey's to Germantown; and

WHEREAS, O Jay Mitchell will also be mourned and remembered by his many friends in Bethesda, Maryland along with the Mayor of Adams-Morgan, Mark Flanagan, and the Boland twins, Chris and Jim; and

WHEREAS, O Jay also left behind a large and loving family whose affection for him was manifested in their devoted care for him in the last months of his life: his loving mother, Catherine, his daughter Lisa, his son Patrick, his sisters Joan, Margaret, Catherine, and Mary, and his brothers Michael and Thomas, as well as two grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, In remembering The Juice, O Jay's family and friends will be able to summon many happy memories and traits of The Admiral: he had a great sense of humor and loved practical jokes, he loved sports, especially the Washington Redskins, he was a down-to-earth raconteur with a high exuberance for life, he had his own language: O Jayese, and he was devoted to his beloved dog, Mr. Matt; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we pause to remember and pay tribute to Orrel James Mitchell for his great life which was too brief but which touched many others and will long be remembered.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be transmitted to Senator Cohen for distribution to family and friends, with this final resolving clause deleted.

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